



# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Mobile Loaves & Fishes News

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## A Message from the Core Director

Our **MLF** ministry's continuing mission is reflected in Pope Francis' message for the 2013 World Food Day:

*"It is a scandal that there is still hunger and malnutrition in the world! It is not a question of responding to immediate emergencies, but of addressing together, at all levels, a problem that challenges our personal and social conscience, in order to achieve a just and lasting solution. May no one be obliged to abandon his or her country or own cultural environment due to a lack of essential means of subsistence!*

*Paradoxically, in an age when globalization enables us to know about the situations of need that exist in the world and to multiply exchanges and human relationship, the tendency to individualism and to withdraw into ourselves seems to be on the rise. These tendencies lead to a certain attitude of indifference — at the personal, institutional and State level — toward those who are dying of hunger or suffering from malnutrition, almost as though it were an inevitable fact. However, hunger and malnutrition can never be considered a normal occurrence to which one must become accustomed, as if it were part of the system. Something has to change in ourselves, in our mentality, in our societies."*

Cedar Joiner □

## MLF Volunteers Comply with Archdiocese Requirements

Recently, the **MLF** Core team learned of some requirements by the Archdiocese of San Antonio for volunteers in parish ministries. Participants will be required to complete a Criminal Background Check (CBC) and acknowledge receipt of the Sexual Misconduct Policy. Additionally, those volunteers who will be working directly with children will need to complete Safe Environment Training through VIRTUS. The VIRTUS training is available online and we will also offer a session at the parish for those who want to attend in person. The CBC and VIRTUS training needs to be renewed every three years. The Sexual Misconduct policy has to be read and signed only one time.

Our Day Volunteer Coordinators will be visiting teams in the kitchen to hand out forms and get the process started. Please look for a flyer with information the next time you visit the **MLF** kitchen. All forms and instructions will be posted on our website **Information** page at [www.sfasat.org/MLF/inform.htm](http://www.sfasat.org/MLF/inform.htm).

If you have any questions please contact Julie Mellin, Volunteer Coordinator, at [volunteermf@gmail.com](mailto:volunteermf@gmail.com) or 210-416-4536.

Julie Mellin □



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 A Message from the Core Director
- 1 MLF Volunteers Comply with Archdiocese Requirements
- 1 How to Donate to the MLF Ministry
- 2 Truck Run Log Takes on New Importance
- 2 Light Switches Make Things Brighter
- 2 New Bins Have Clothing Donations Rolling
- 2 Contact Us
- 2 Upcoming Events
- 2 A Quick Reminder...

## How to Donate to the MLF Ministry

With the St. Francis of Assisi online donation system, financial support for the MLF ministry is now easier and more secure. What is online giving? **It is a direct payment program whereby your contribution is debited automatically from your checking, savings, or credit card account into the SFA church's bank account.**

To begin, you can click the **MAKE A DONATION** button shown above and you will be directed to the **SFA Welcome to Online Giving!** page. There you can easily register and sign up to create a new online donation account. You can specify when you want the donations made and exactly how much you want to donate. For additional information or questions, click this [Online Giving FAQs](#) link. □

## Truck Run Log Takes on New Importance

While being good stewards of our ministry funding, the rise in food costs and the need for reliable statistics makes it vital that we maintain an accurate count of the total **number of meals needed** and the **actual number of clients being served**.

- 1) To stretch our budget dollars, we must eliminate any "extra" meals being taken to various locations.
- 2) These figures provide verifiable evidence of our ongoing activities that can be used to attract funding. The data adds statistical information for our supporters such as the S.A. Food Bank and Catholic Charities.
- 3) Whenever a meal run problem occurs, we need documentation on what happened in order to address the issue. By answering these "who, what, when, and where" questions, you enable our Site Coordinator to more effectively deal with these situations.

Please help us maintain this essential information by completing the **Truck Run Log** after each meal run. □

## Light Switches Make Things Brighter

Electricians have installed two new light switches in the **MLF** kitchen. One (shown on the left behind the red & black cap) controls the lighting in the walk-in freezer / ice maker room. The other (shown on the wall next to the cabinets and condiment boxes) controls the lighting in the clothing / supply room. □



## New Bins Have Clothing Donations Rolling

Volunteers will likely notice three large tan-colored plastic roller bins under the clothes sorting table in the **MLF** kitchen storage area. Donated clothing that has not yet been sorted for distribution may be placed in these bins. They are clearly marked "MLF Clothing".

The overall effect is to help keep the table clear so volunteers can more easily sort into the "Quick Sort" bins. It also should help keep the clothing to this area and away from the non-perishable food storage lockers so that delivery prep teams and commissary teams have that table available to them. We hope that the area will stay neater while also keeping clothing off the damp, sometimes wet floor until it can be properly sorted.

Gerry Caron □

## Contact Us

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MLF website: [www.sfasat.org/MLF/index.htm](http://www.sfasat.org/MLF/index.htm)

## Upcoming Events

April 9 - MLF Social Sunday

## A Quick Reminder...

- Captains, notify [mlfnw@sfasat.org](mailto:mlfnw@sfasat.org) or call 210-249-1570 **before** canceling a meal run.
- Sanitize tables before each meal prep .
- Wear a baseball cap or hairnet when prepping sandwiches or bagging cookies.
- Prepare **only** the amount of meals shown on the **Meals Calendar** posted on the refrigerator.
- Sweep the floor and empty trash / recycling (into commercial bins) after each meal prep.
- Transport turkey and cheese sandwich trays on beds of ice.
- Empty truck's trash bin (located at the bottom left of food serving side) after each delivery.
- Fill-out the **MLF Truck Run Log** after deliveries **and** use the bottom section of **MLF Truck Run Log** to report any unusual events / problems that occur during deliveries.
- Say a quick prayer before your delivery runs.

Butch Rendon □